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PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 02356.0076-01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
 )  
Pierre CHARNEAU et al. ) Prior Group Art Unit: 1648  
 )  
Serial No.: Not assigned ) Prior Examiner: R. Budens  
(Based on Serial No.: 08/817,441) )  
 )  
Filed: December 27, 2001 )

For: NUCLEOTIDE SEQUENCES OF HIV-1 TYPE  
(OR SUBTYPE) O RETROVIRUS ANTIGENS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to examination of this application, please amend this application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

On page 5, line 26, insert the following description of the drawings:

**--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS**

This invention will be more fully described with reference to the drawings in which:

Figures 1A and B depict RT activity and p24 levels.

Figure 2 is a Western blot analysis of a series of serum samples.

Figures 3A-D show an amino acid alignment of the HIV-1VAU and HIV-1LAI envelope sequences (SEQ ID NO:102 and SEQ ID NO:103), including an alignment of

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